

**“I Am Not Ashamed of the Gospel!”
(Romans 1:16-17)**

Paul's amazing confidence to, in effect, take on the great city of Rome with the gospel is rooted in his unwavering confidence in the message itself! He is unashamed of the gospel because. . .

The Gospel is POWERFUL (v.16a)

“...for it is the power of God to salvation”

- **A Dynamic Power**
- **A Directed Power**

The Gospel is PERSONAL (v.16b)

“...for everyone who believes, for the Jew first, and also for the Greek.”

- It is **Individual**
- It is **Inclusive**

The Gospel is PURPOSEFUL (v.17)

“For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith”

- For **God Himself**
- For **Those Who Believe**

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Small Group Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: Who was it that was “not ashamed” to tell you about the gospel? Share some of the details of who God used to point you to Christ.

1. What are some possible reasons a Christian “could have” been ashamed to share the gospel in Rome (and also in our culture today)?
2. How can a simple message like the gospel be so powerful?
3. What do you think are some reasons that God made our salvation BY FAITH alone (i.e., “to everyone who believes”)?
4. How might a proud and loyal Jew in Paul’s day respond to the teaching that the gospel is “for the Jew first” but “also for the Greek?” What can we learn from this?
5. How is the “righteousness of God” and His righteous character revealed in the gospel?

Small Group Prayer

Each person pray for a couple of our missionaries using the Missions Day of Prayer list of requests. Ask God to give you a renewed confidence in the power of the gospel and to help you share it this week.

Digging Deeper

1. What do these passages tell us about the power of the gospel message?
1 Cor 1:18, 23-24; 2:5; Jas 1:18; 1 Pet 1:23
2. Compare Romans 1:17 with the other occurrences of “the righteousness of God” in Paul’s epistles (Rom 3:5, 21-22, 25-26, 10:3; 1 Cor 1:30; 2 Cor 5:21; Phil 3:9), and elsewhere in the New Testament (Matt 6:33; Jas 1:20; 2 Pet 1:1). In light of these verses, jot down how you would define “righteousness” in your own words?